

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1 – 10 (canceled).

11. (previously presented) A method of preparing a media sheet, comprising:
applying a porous ink-receiving layer to a media substrate, said ink-receiving layer including inorganic metal oxide or semi-metal oxide particulates, polymeric binder, and an effective amount of a sulfur-containing compound that interacts with ozone upon exposure thereto, wherein at least a portion of the sulfur-containing compound is chemically attached to at least one of the inorganic metal oxide or semi-metal oxide particulates; and
drying the ink-receiving layer.

12. (previously presented) A method as in claim 11, wherein the inorganic metal oxide or semi-metal oxide particulates, the polymeric binder, and the sulfur-containing compound are present in a common coating composition, and the common coating composition is coated on the media substrate in the applying step.

13. (previously presented) A method as in claim 12, wherein the inorganic metal oxide or semi-metal oxide particulates, the polymeric binder, and the sulfur-containing compound are admixed together in the common coating composition.

14. (canceled).

15. (previously presented) A method as in claim 11, wherein the applying step includes two coating steps, said two coating steps comprising:
coating the media substrate with a first coating composition including the inorganic metal oxide or semi-metal oxide particulates and the polymeric binder, and
overcoating the first coating composition with a second coating composition including the sulfur-containing compound.

16. (original) A method as in claim 11, wherein the porous ink-receiving layer further comprises a mordant component configured for fixing a predetermined class of colorant.

17. (previously presented) A method as in claim 11, wherein the inorganic metal oxide or semi-metal oxide is silica or alumina.

18. (original) A method as in claim 11, wherein the polymeric binder is selected from the group consisting of polyvinyl alcohol, water-soluble copolymers of polyvinyl alcohol, polyvinyl acetate, polyvinyl pyrrolidone, oxidized starches, etherified starches, carboxymethyl cellulose, hydroxyethyl cellulose, polyacrylamide, polyacrylamide derivatives, polyacrylamide copolymers, casein, gelatin, soybean protein, silyl-modified polyvinyl alcohol, maleic anhydride resin, styrene-butadiene copolymer, copolymers of acrylic and methacrylic acids, ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymers, carboxyl-modified latexes, amino-modified latexes, amido-modified latexes, sulfo-modified latexes, melamine resin, urea resin, polymethyl methacrylate, polyurethane resin, polyester resin, amide resin, vinyl chloride-vinyl acetate copolymer, polyvinyl butyral, alkyl resins, and combinations thereof.

19. (original) A method as in claim 11, wherein the sulfur-containing compound is selected from the group consisting of a thioether and a thiol.

20. (original) A method as in claim 19, wherein the sulfur-containing compound is a thiodiethanol.

21 – 37. (canceled).

38. (currently amended) A method of preparing a media sheet, comprising:
applying a porous ink-receiving layer to a media substrate, said ink-receiving layer including inorganic metal oxide or semi-metal oxide particulates, polymeric binder, and an effective amount of a thiodiethanol that interacts with ozone upon exposure thereto, wherein at

least a portion of the thiodiethanol is chemically attached to at least one of the inorganic metal oxide or semi-metal oxide particulates; and

drying the ink-receiving layer.

39. (canceled).

40. (currently amended) A method as in claim 38, wherein the step of applying includes coating the media substrate with a first coating composition including the inorganic metal oxide or semi-metal oxide particulates and the polymeric binder; and overcoating the first coating composition with a second coating composition including the thiodiethanol.

41. (previously presented) A method as in claim 38, wherein the porous ink-receiving layer further comprises a mordant component configured for fixing a predetermined class of colorant.

42. (previously presented) A method as in claim 38, wherein the inorganic metal oxide or semi-metal oxide is silica or alumina.

43. (previously presented) A method as in claim 38, wherein the polymeric binder is selected from the group consisting of polyvinyl alcohol, water-soluble copolymers of polyvinyl alcohol, polyvinyl acetate, polyvinyl pyrrolidone, oxidized starches, etherified starches, carboxymethyl cellulose, hydroxyethyl cellulose, polyacrylamide, polyacrylamide derivatives, polyacrylamide copolymers, casein, gelatin, soybean protein, silyl-modified polyvinyl alcohol, maleic anhydride resin, styrene-butadiene copolymer, copolymers of acrylic and methacrylic acids, ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymers, carboxyl-modified latexes, amino-modified latexes, amido-modified latexes, sulfo-modified latexes, melamine resin, urea resin, polymethyl methacrylate, polyurethane resin, polyester resin, amide resin, vinyl chloride-vinyl acetate copolymer, polyvinyl butyral, alkyl resins, and combinations thereof.